

FECN11 CWIS 181800

THIRTY DAY FORECAST FOR THE GREAT LAKES FROM MID JANUARY TO MID FEBRUARY ISSUED BY THE NORTH AMERICAN ICE SERVICE ON 18 JANUARY 2006.

THE NEXT SCHEDULED BULLETIN WILL BE ISSUED ON 03 FEBRUARY 2006.

Lake Superior

Temperatures were much above normal during the first half of January. The current ice situation is two to three weeks later than normal in terms of freeze-up.

Forecast ice conditions from January 18th to January 31st.

Temperatures will average above normal for the second half of January.

1. Thunder Bay –The ice will slowly spread and thicken during the period. By the end of January, most of Thunder Bay will be covered with thin and medium lake ice. Some consolidated medium and thick lake ice will be present along the shore of the bay.
2. Nipigon and Black Bays –Consolidated medium and thick lake ice.
3. From Grand Marais to the entrance to Nipigon Bay – By the end of January, a narrow band of new and thin lake ice within 5 to 10 miles of the coast. Otherwise open water.
4. From Grand Marais to Duluth – Mainly open water with patches of new and thin lake ice near Duluth.
5. Southern Lake Superior west of Keweenaw Peninsula – New lake ice will begin to form near Duluth and around the Apostle Islands with areas of consolidated thin lake ice around the Apostle Islands. A band of new and thin lake ice will form elsewhere along the coast.
6. Southern Lake Superior east of the Keweenaw Peninsula – A band of new and thin lake ice will form along the coast.
7. Whitefish Bay – Consolidated new and thin lake ice will remain in the smaller bays. New lake ice will begin to form along the coastal area of the bay during the period. By the end of mid-January the bay will be partially covered with new and thin lake ice.
8. From Whitefish Bay northwards to Michipicoten Bay – Patchy new and thin lake ice along the coast.
9. From Michipicoten Bay to the entrance to Nipigon Bay – Patchy new and thin lake ice along the coast.
10. Elsewhere in Lake Superior – Open water to ice free.

Forecast ice conditions from February 1st to February 14th.

Temperatures will average near to above normal during the first half of February.

1. Thunder Bay – The ice will slowly spread and thicken during the period. By the middle of February, Thunder Bay will be covered with medium lake ice. Some consolidated medium and thick lake ice will be present along the shore of the bay.
2. Nipigon and Black Bays –Consolidated thick lake ice.
3. From Grand Marais to the entrance to Nipigon Bay – By the middle of February, a band of thin lake ice within about 10 miles of the coast. Otherwise open water.

4. From Grand Marais to Duluth – Mainly open water with patches of thin lake ice near Duluth.
5. Southern Lake Superior west of the Keweenaw Peninsula – The consolidated ice around portions of the Apostle Islands will continue to expand to cover most the islands. The ice edge will expand to about 15 miles of the coast by the end of the month.
6. Southern Lake Superior east of Keweenaw Peninsula – The new and thin lake ice will continue to form along the shore and extend to about 15 miles from the shore by mid-February. The ice will be mostly thin and medium lake ice at that time.
7. Whitefish Bay – By mid February, the bay will be mostly covered with thin and medium lake ice. Some consolidated medium and thick lake ice will be present in the smaller bays.
8. From Whitefish Bay to Michipicoten Bay – Patchy new and thin lake ice along the coast.
9. From Michipicoten Bay to the entrance to Nipigon Bay – Patchy new and thin lake ice along the coast.
10. Elsewhere in Lake Superior – Open water.

Lake Michigan

Temperatures were much above normal during the first half of January. The current ice situation is two to three weeks later than normal in terms of freeze-up.

Forecast ice conditions from January 18th to January 31st.

Temperatures will average above normal for the second half of January.

1. Green Bay – By the end of January, the southern half of Green Bay and Big Bay de Noc will be consolidated with thin and medium lake ice. Northern half of Green Bay will be ice covered with mobile thin and medium lake ice.
2. Northeastern Lake Michigan –New and thin lake ice will form and expand near the entrance to the Straits of Mackinaw during the period. By the end of January, the patchy new ice in the northeastern portion of the lake will continue to expand southward and be located near Beaver Island.
3. Elsewhere in Lake Michigan – The coastal area of the lake will have some patches of new and thin lake ice within 1 to 3 miles of the shore mostly along the western, southern and northeastern shore. Beyond the ice edge and shore mostly open water will prevail with the central portion of the lake being ice free.

Forecast ice conditions from February 1st to February 14th.

Temperatures will average near to above normal during the first half of February.

1. Green Bay – By the middle of February, the southern half of Green Bay and Big Bay de Noc will be consolidated with medium and thick lake ice. Northern half of Green Bay will be ice covered with mostly medium and some thick lake ice.
2. Northern Lake Michigan –By the middle of January, ice in the northeastern portion of the lake will continue to expand southward and be located south of Beaver Island. Areas of consolidated ice will form near the shore northwest of the Straits of Mackinaw.

3. Elsewhere in Lake Michigan – The coastal area of the lake will have some patches of new and thin lake ice within 1 to 3 miles of the shore mostly along the western, southern and northeastern shore. Beyond the ice edge and shore mostly open water will prevail with the central portion of the lake being ice free.

Lake Huron and Georgian Bay

Temperatures were much above normal during the first half of January. The current ice situation is two to three weeks later than normal in terms of freeze-up.

Forecast ice conditions from January 18th to January 31st.

Temperatures will average above normal for the second half of January.

1. North Channel – By the end of January most of the channel will be consolidated with thin and medium thick lake ice.
2. St Mary's River – By the end of January most of the river will be consolidated with thin and medium thick lake ice.
3. South of Manitoulin Island westward to North-western Lake Huron - Mainly open water, however some new and thin lake ice will begin to form along the shore during the period.
4. North-western Lake Huron near the Straits of Mackinaw — The ice along the shore will continue to spread and reach Bois Blanc Island by the end of January. At this time, some consolidated medium lake ice will be present along the shore near the Straits of Mackinaw.
5. From north-western Lake Huron to Saginaw Bay – New and thin lake ice will begin to form along the shore and spread to extend about 5 miles from the shore by the end of January.
6. Saginaw Bay – By the end of the period, consolidated thin and medium lake ice in the bay.
7. The southern and eastern shore of Lake Huron – Some narrow bands of new and thin lake ice will form along the southern and eastern shore.
8. Georgian Bay – The fast ice along the northeast shore will become more widespread through the period. New and thin lake ice will continue to form along the north-eastern shore of the bay. By the end of January, the ice edge will extend about 20 miles from the northeast coast with some patches of new and thin lake ice in the southern portion of the bay.
9. Elsewhere in Lake Huron – Open water.

Forecast ice conditions from February 1st to February 14th.

Temperatures will average near to above normal during the first half of February.

1. North Channel – Consolidated with thick lake ice.
2. St Mary's River – Consolidated with thick lake ice.
3. South of Manitoulin Island westward to North-western Lake Huron - New and thin lake ice will continue to form along the southern shore of Manitoulin Island during the period.
4. North-western Lake Huron near the Straits of Mackinaw – The ice along the shore will continue to spread slowly eastward through period and thicken to thin and medium lake

ice. At this time, some consolidated medium lake ice will be present along the shore near the Straits of Mackinaw.

5. From north-western Lake Huron to Saginaw Bay – The ice along the shore will continue to slowly expand through period and thicken to thin and medium lake ice.
6. Saginaw Bay – Consolidated with medium lake ice.
7. The southern and eastern shore of Lake Huron –A 10 to 20 mile band of mostly thin lake ice will extend along the shore by the end of the period.
8. Georgian Bay –The fast ice along the northeast shore will remain unchanged through the period. New and thin lake ice will continue to form along the north-eastern shore of the bay and drift into the central part of the bay. There will be consolidated ice along the southern portions of the bay with patchy new and thin ice along the southern shore.
9. Elsewhere in Lake Huron.– Open water.

Lake Erie and Lake St. Clair

Temperatures were much above normal during the first half of January. The current ice situation is two to three weeks later than normal in terms of freeze-up.

Forecast ice conditions from January 18th to January 31st.

Temperatures will average above normal for the second half of January.

1. Lake St Clair and Western Basin–Slow ice growth and expansion during the period. However the lake is expect to consolidate with thin and some medium lake ice just near the end of the month.
2. The rest of Lake Erie – Open water with patchy new and thin lake ice forming along the shores especially the northern shore. Some new lake ice will begin to form and extend about 2 to 5 miles from the shore. Consolidated thin and medium lake ice will form in Long Point Bay and Sandusky Bay during the period.

Forecast ice conditions from February 1st to February 14th.

Temperatures will average near to above normal during the first half of February.

1. Lake St Clair and Western Basin –the consolidated medium lake ice will fracture by mid February.
2. The rest of Lake Erie –Mostly open water with patchy new and thin lake ice along the shores.

Lake Ontario

Temperatures were much above normal during the first half of January. The current ice situation is two to three weeks later than normal in terms of freeze-up.

Forecast ice conditions from January 18th to January 31st.

Temperatures will be near to above normal during the first half of January.

1. Northeastern Lake Ontario – The ice will start to grow and spread during the period. By the end of January, the northeastern portion of the lake from the southeastern tip of Prince Edward County south-eastward to just east of Oswego will be partially covered with thin and new lake ice.
2. Bay of Quinte – Consolidated medium lake ice.
3. St Lawrence River – Some new and thin lake ice will continue to form during the period with consolidated thin lake ice around the islands in the river.
4. Elsewhere in Lake Ontario – Some patches of new and thin lake ice will form within 1 to 4 miles of the shore during the period. Further off-shore, conditions will be mostly open water with ice free in the central portion of the lake.

Forecast ice conditions from February 1st to February 14th.

Temperatures will average near to above normal during the first half of February.

1. Northeastern Lake Ontario – The ice will continue to grow and spread during the period. By the middle of February, the northeastern portion of the lake from the southeastern tip of Prince Edward County south-eastward to just east of Oswego will be covered with thin and new lake ice. The coastal area of Prince Edward County will have some patches of new and thin lake ice.
2. Bay of Quinte – Consolidated thick lake ice.
3. St Lawrence River – Thin and medium lake ice with consolidated medium to thick lake ice around the islands in the river
4. Elsewhere in Lake Ontario – Some patches of new and thin lake ice will form within 1 to 4 miles of the shore during the period. Further off-shore, conditions will be mostly open water with ice free in the central portion of the lake.

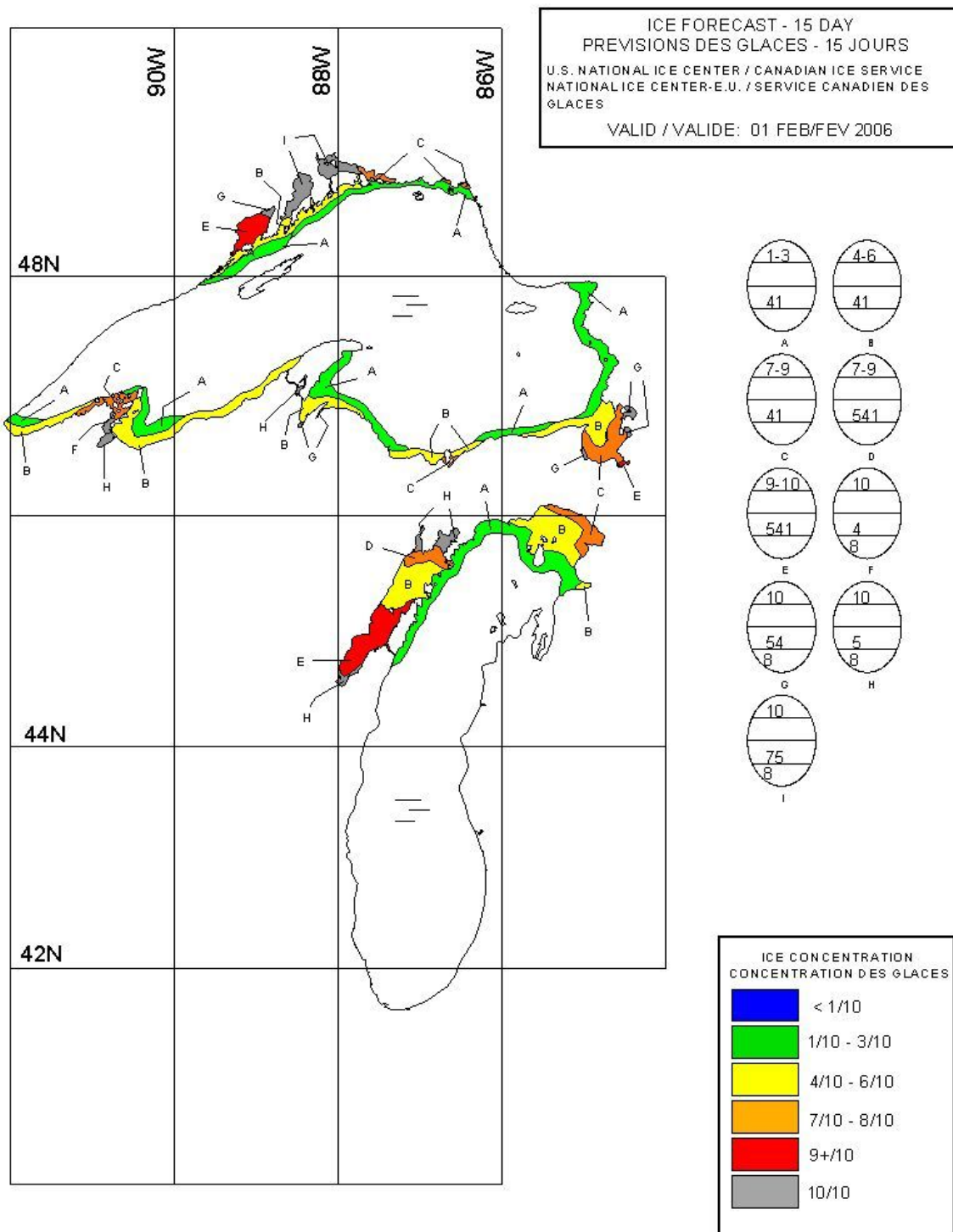


Figure 1: Ice forecast, Western Great Lakes – 01 February 2006

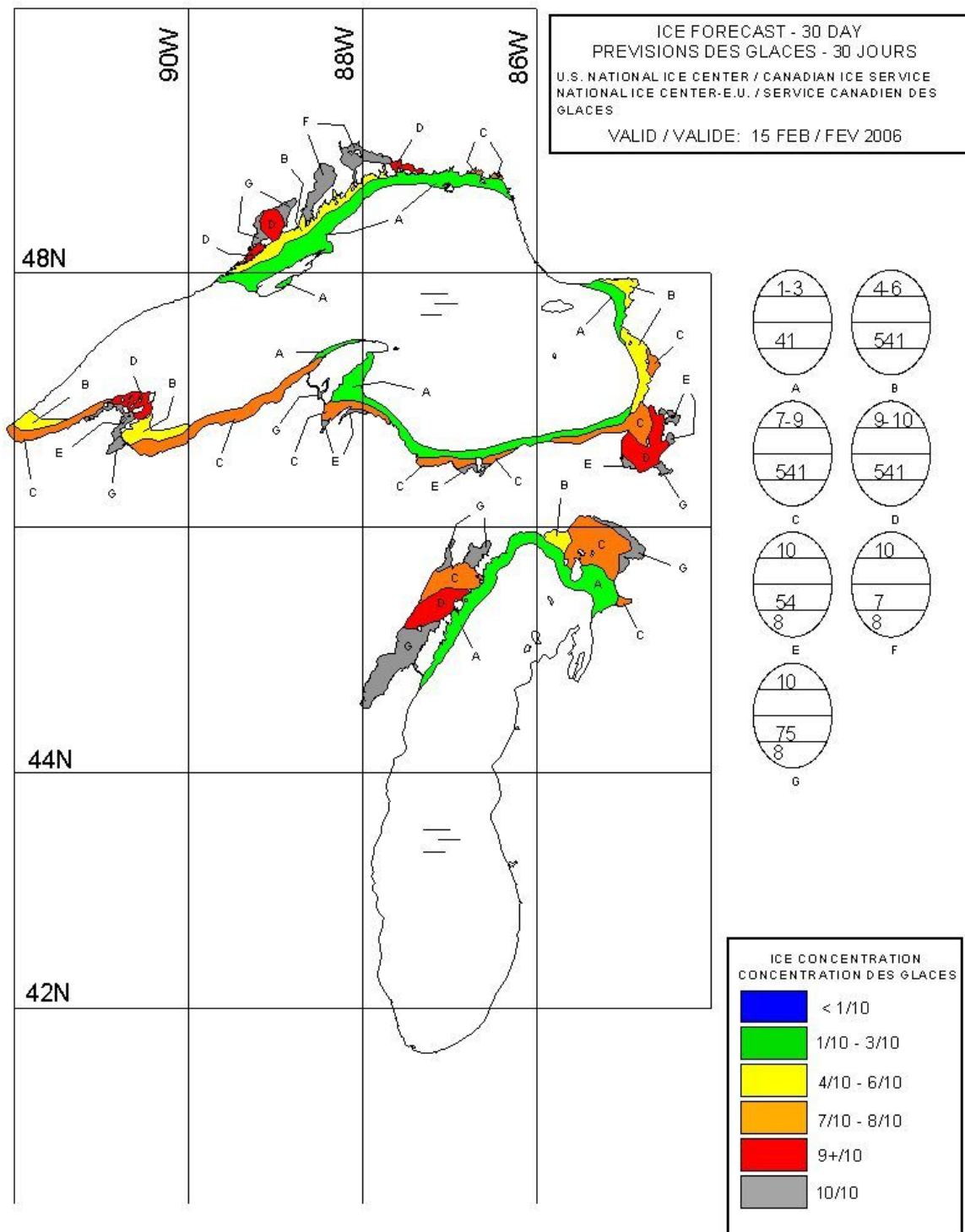


Figure 2; Ice forecast, Western Great Lakes - 15February 2006

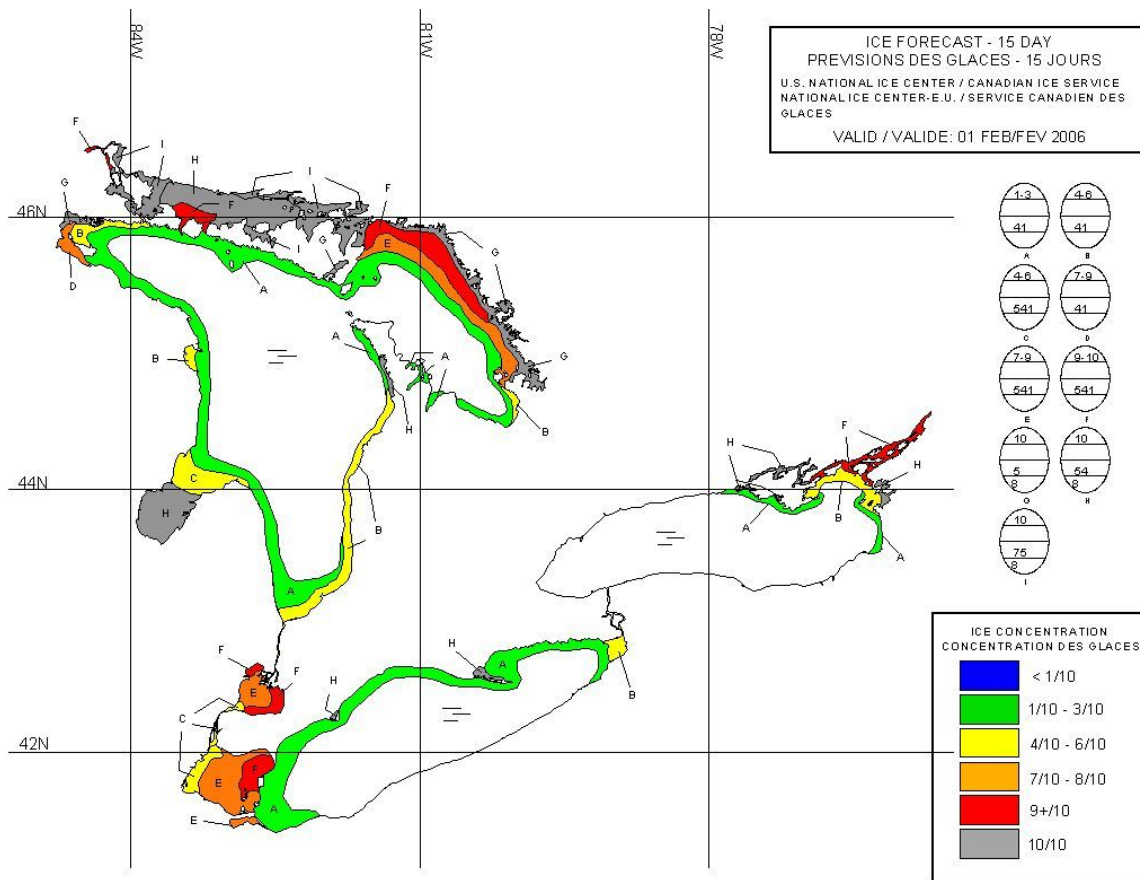


Figure 3: Ice forecast Eastern Great Lakes – 01 February 2005

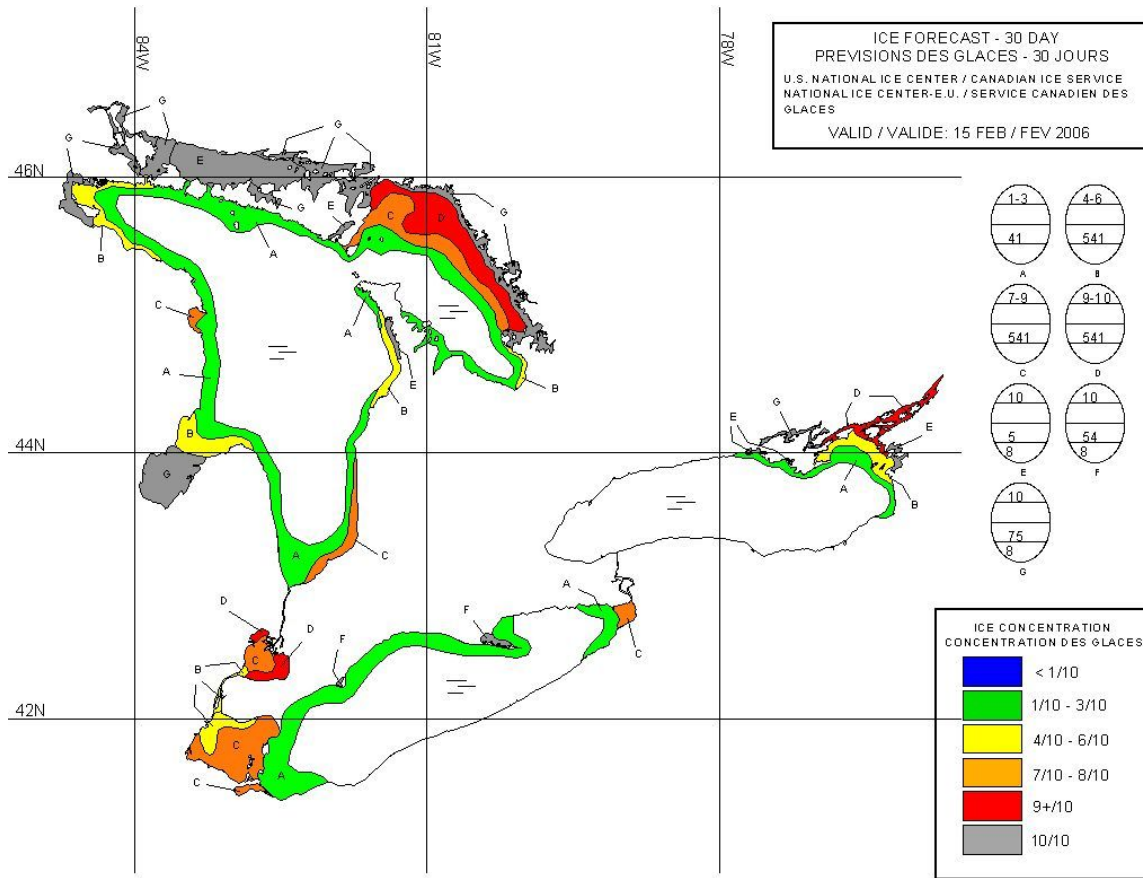


Figure 4: Ice forecast, Eastern Great Lakes 15 February 2006

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